— The Centre has commissioned a video film on pollution aspects of cement industries in Madhya Pradesh.

— The Centre responded to specific queries on environment received from various users.

Disaster Management Institute (DMI) was established by Government of Madhya Pradesh in 1987. One of the important activities of this institute is to organise training programmes on disasters and their management for both public and private sector industries. So far, the Institute is reported to have conducted 27 training courses related to prevention, mitigation and management aspects of man-made as well as natural disasters. This is a State level Institute and no Central grant is given to the Institute.

Installation of pollution control equipment

3827. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what fiscal incentives are provided by the Central Government for installation of pollution control equipments;

(b) the number of units which have availed of such incentives from March to June, 1992 and the corresponding number for 1991-92; and

(c) what steps have been taken to use solid waste?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) There are at present several fiscal incentives for installation of pollution control equipment including excise/custom duty exemption for installation of pollution control equipment to the actual users or to the manufacturers of the equipment.

Under the World Bank assisted Industrial Pollution Control Project, started from November, 1991 loans are available to large and medium scale industrial units to instal pollution control devices at concessional rates of interest.

(b) A total of 19 units have availed Excise Duty Exemption and one unit has availed custom duty exemption during March, 1991 to June, 1991. During the period between March 1992 and June, 1992, 22 units have availed excise duty exemption and two units have availed custom duty exemption.

(c) Incentives to use solid wastes generated by various industries like flyash generated by the coal-based thermal power stations, red-mud generated by the primary aluminium industry and phosphogypsum generated by the phosphatic fertilizer industry have been given as they are all good raw material for building and/or construction activities.

A number of fiscal concessions for the final products from the waste items are available. These include:

(i) Exemption of excise duty on the production of building materials using flyash or phosphogypsum in 25 per cent or more quantities as raw materials.

(ii) Exemption of excise duty on bricks and tiles manufactured using red-mud (25 per cent or more as raw material) and light weight hollow/solid bricks and other components.

(iii) Exemption of custom duty on the import of equipment, machinery and capital goods required for the production of building materials using flyash phosphogypsum.

(iv) Reduction in the excise duty from 15 per cent to 5 per cent on the prefab components required for housing, using waste like phosphogypsum.

(v) Exemption of excise duty on doors and windows using plastics and steel panel doors, to encourage use of various wood substitutes.